

## Amendments to the Claims

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47. (Original) A peptide nucleic acid with at least one chemical substituent covalently attached to the  $\alpha$ -carbon of a monomeric subunit.
48. (Currently amended) A peptide nucleic acid according to claim 47 with at least one chemical substituent covalently attached to an internal monomeric subunit of the peptide nucleic acid.
49. (Currently amended) A peptide nucleic acid with at least one chemical substituent covalently attached to ~~according to claim 48 wherein said attachment is to a base of said an~~ internal monomeric subunit of the peptide nucleic acid.
50. (Cancelled).
51. (Original) A composition according to claim 48 or 49 wherein said chemical substituent is an electron transfer moiety.
52. (Original) A composition according to claim 51 wherein said electron transfer moiety is an electrode.
53. (Original) A composition according to claim 51 wherein said electron transfer moiety is a transition metal complex.
- Claims 54-59 (Cancelled) A composition according to claim 48 wherein said chemical substituent is a label.
60. (New) A composition according to claim 53 wherein said transition metal complex is metallocene.
61. (New) A composition according to claim 54 wherein said metallocene is ferrocene.
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